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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/501,496	07/14/2004	John R. Fozard	PA/4-32352A	8265

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NOVARTIS
CORPORATE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
ONE HEALTH PLAZA 104/3
EAST HANOVER, NJ 07936-1080

EXAMINER

CHONG, YONG SOO

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1617

DATE MAILED: 09/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/501,496	Applicant(s) FOZARD ET AL.	
	Examiner Yong S. Chong	Art Unit 1617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 July 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10-19 and 21-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/29/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Status of the Application

This Office Action is in response to applicant's remarks filed on 7/6/2006. Claim(s) 10-29 are pending. Claim(s) 20 is withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant's election **without traverse** of the restriction requirement in the reply filed on 7/6/2006 is acknowledged. The requirement is deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL. Claim(s) 10-19, 21-29 examined herein insofar as they read on the elected invention and species.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim(s) 11-23, 25, 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, claim(s) 11-29 recites the limitation "according to claims 1 or 2," however claims 1 and 2 have been cancelled. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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Claim(s) 10-19, 21, 27-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gerspacher et al. (WO 98/07694).

Gerspacher et al. disclose acylaminoalkenylene-amide derivatives of formula I (abstract) for the treatment of gastrointestinal disorders such as Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, and diarrhea (pg. 5, paragraphs 1-2). A preferred compound is disclosed to be (4R)-4-[N'-methyl-N'-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)-benzoyl)-amino]-4-(3,4-dichlorobenzyl)-but-2-enoic acid N-[(R)-epsilon-caprolactam-3-yl]-amide (pg. 33, paragraph 3) to be administered to a warm-blooded animal from approximately 1 to 1000 mg (pg. 16, paragraph 3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham vs John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claim(s) 22-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Gerspacher et al. (WO 98/07694) as applied to claims 10-19, 21, 27-29 in view of Ksander et al. (US Patent 5,217,996).

The instant claims are directed to a method of treating diarrhea-predominant irritable bowel syndrome by administering (4R)-4-[N'-methyl-N'-(3,5-bistrifluoromethyl-benzoyl)-amino]-4-(3,4-dichlorobenzyl)-but-2-enoic acid N-[(R)-epsilon-caprolactam-3-yl]-amide.

Gerspacher et al. teach as discussed above, however, does not specifically disclose diarrhea-predominant irritable bowel syndrome.

Ksander et al. disclose a general teaching that some examples of gastrointestinal disorders are diarrhea and irritable bowel syndrome (col. 1, lines 35-37).

Therefore, it would have been prima facie obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the claimed invention was made, to have used (4R)-4-[N'-methyl-N'-(3,5-bistrifluoromethyl-benzoyl)-amino]-4-(3,4-dichlorobenzyl)-but-2-enoic acid N-[(R)-epsilon-caprolactam-3-yl]-amide, as disclosed by Gerspacher, to treat diarrhea-predominant irritable bowel syndrome.

A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to treat diarrhea-predominant irritable bowel syndrome because (1) Gerspacher et al. teach a method of treating gastrointestinal disorders such as diarrhea and (2) Ksander et al. teach that both diarrhea and irritable bowel syndrome are examples of gastrointestinal disorders. Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would have had a reasonable expectation of success in treating diarrhea-predominant irritable bowel syndrome with (4R)-4-[N'-

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methyI-N'-(3,5-bistrifluoromethyl-benzoyl)-amino]-4-(3,4-dichlorobenzyl)-but-2-enoic acid N-[(R)-epsilon-caprolactam-3-yl]-amide.

Examiner notes that this is a typical genus/species situation. Once a *prima facie* case of obviousness is established, the burden is shifted to the Applicant for objective evidence for nonobviousness. See MPEP 2144.08.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yong S. Chong whose telephone number is (571)-272-8513. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, SREENI PADMANABHAN can be reached on (571)-272-0629. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

YSC

SHENGJUNWANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER